

CLAIM LISTING

1. (Original): A method comprising validating a configuration setting of a first application for use with a second application, wherein:

the configuration setting including a first field and a first description of a first condition for the first field;

the second application is composed of computer instructions, the computer instructions having an attribute, the attribute providing a second description of a second condition for a second field; and

the validating includes:

if the first field corresponds to the second field, then comparing the first description of the first condition with the second description of the second condition to determine whether the first condition is met by the second condition; and

if met, then determining that the configuration setting is valid for use with the second application.

2. (Previously presented): A method as described in claim 1, wherein the first and second conditions are value constraints selected from the group consisting of:

an integer range;

a float range;

1 a value set;
2 a string pattern;
3 cardinality of a collection;
4 a mandatory value; and
5 an optional value.
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7 3. (Original): A method as described in claim 1, wherein the first and
8 second conditions are default values.
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11 4. (Original): A method as described in claim 1, wherein the first and
12 second conditions are textual descriptions selected from the group consisting of:

13 a description of units in which the respective first and second fields are
14 expressed;

15 a description of meanings of the respective first and second fields; and
16 an example of values of the first and second fields.
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19 5. (Original): A method as described in claim 1, wherein the attribute:
20 is a declarative tag that that may be retrieved from and during execution of
21 the second application; and
22 does not determine the value of the field.
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25 6. (Original): A method as described in claim 1, further comprising

communicating a result of the validating to the first application.

7. (Original): A method as described in claim 1, wherein the configuration setting further comprises a field type.

8. (Original): One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, perform the method as recited in claim 1.

9. (Original): A method comprising:

reading a first configuration setting of a first application including a first field and a first description of a first condition for the first field;

examining a second application to find a second configuration setting that corresponds to the first configuration setting, wherein the second application is composed of computer instructions, the computer instructions having an attribute, the attribute providing a second description of a second condition for a second field, the second configuration setting having the second field and the second description; and

comparing the second description of the second condition with the first description of the first condition to determine whether the second condition is met by the first condition, and if met then determining that the second configuration setting is valid for use with the first application.

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2 10. (Previously presented): A method as described in claim 9, wherein
3 the first and second conditions are value constraints selected from the group
4 consisting of:

5 an integer range;
6 a float range;
7 a value set;
8 a string pattern;
9 cardinality of a collection;
10 a mandatory value; and
11 an optional value.
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14 11. (Original): A method as described in claim 9, wherein the first and
15 second conditions are default values.
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18 12. (Original): A method as described in claim 9, wherein the first and
19 second conditions are textual descriptions selected from the group consisting of:

20 a description of units in which the respective first and second fields are
21 expressed;
22 a description of meanings of the respective first and second fields; and
23 an example of values of the first and second fields.
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1 13. (Original): One or more computer-readable media comprising
2 computer-executable instructions that, when executed, perform the method as
3 recited in claim 9.

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5 14. (Previously presented): A method comprising:
6 executing a documenter to find a plurality of fields in an application,
7 wherein:

8 the application is composed of computer instructions;

9 the computer instructions having attributes; and

10 each said attribute providing a description of a condition for a
11 respective said field,
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13 forming a configuration file having a plurality of configuration settings of
14 the application, wherein each said configuration setting includes one said field and
15 the description of the condition for the one said field;

16 outputting the configuration file; and

17 utilizing the configuration file to validate configuration settings.
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20 15. (Previously presented): A method as described in claim 14, wherein
21 the condition is a value constraint selected from the group consisting of:

22 an integer range;

23 a float range;

24 a value set;
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1 a string pattern;
2 cardinality of a collection;
3 a mandatory value; and
4 an optional value.
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6 16. (Original): A method as described in claim 14, wherein the
7 condition is a default value.
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10 17. (Original): A method as described in claim 14, wherein the
11 condition is a textual description selected from the group consisting of:

12 a description of a unit in which the respective said field is expressed;
13 a description of meanings of the respective said field; and
14 an example of a value of the respective said field.
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17 18. (Original): One or more computer-readable media comprising
18 computer-executable instructions that perform the method as recited in claim 14.
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20 19. (Original): A method comprising:
21 generating a configuration file having a plurality of configuration settings
22 derived from a first application, wherein:
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24 the application is composed of computer instructions;
25 the computer instructions having attributes;

each said attribute providing a description of a condition for a field;
and

each said configuration setting having one said field and a
corresponding said description; and

validating whether the first application is valid for use with a second said
application by comparing each said configuration setting of the first application
with a corresponding said configuration setting of the second said application to
determine whether each said condition of the first application is met by a
corresponding said condition of the second application.

20. (Previously presented): A method as described in claim 19, wherein
each condition is a value constraint selected from the group consisting of:

an integer range;
a float range;
a value set;
a string pattern;
cardinality of a collection;
a mandatory value; and
an optional value.

21. (Original): A method as described in claim 19, wherein each
condition is a default value.

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2 22. (Original): A method as described in claim 19, wherein each
3 condition is a textual description selected from the group consisting of:

4 a unit in which a corresponding said field is expressed;

5 description of a meanings of a corresponding said field; and

6 an example of a value a corresponding said field.
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9 23. (Original): One or more computer-readable media comprising
10 computer-executable instructions that, when executed, perform the method as
11 recited in claim 19.
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13 24. (Original): A computer-readable medium comprising computer-
14 executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, direct the computer to:

15 read a first configuration setting of a first application that includes a first
16 field and a first description of a first condition for the first field; and
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18 validate whether the first condition is met by a second application, wherein:

19 the second application is composed of computer instructions;

20 the computer instructions have an attribute that provides a second
21 description of a second condition for a second field; and
22

23 the first condition is validated through comparison with the second
24 condition.
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1 25. (Previously presented): A computer-readable medium as described
2 in claim 24, wherein the first and second conditions are value constraints selected
3 from the group consisting of:

- 4 an integer range;
- 5 a float range;
- 6 a value set;
- 7 a string pattern;
- 8 cardinality of a collection;
- 9 a mandatory value; and
- 10 an optional value.

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13 26. (Original): A computer-readable medium as described in claim 24,
14 wherein the first and second conditions are default values.

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17 27. (Original): A computer-readable medium as described in claim 24,
18 wherein the first and second conditions are textual descriptions selected from the
19 group consisting of:

- 20 a description of units in which the first and second fields are expressed;
- 21 a description of meanings of the first and second fields; and
- 22 an example of values of the first and second fields.

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25 28. (Original): A computer comprising:

1 a processor; and

2 memory configured to maintain:

3 a first application composed of computer instructions, the computer
4 instructions having an attribute, the attribute providing a first description of
5 a first condition for a first field;

6 a configuration file including a configuration setting of a second
7 application having a second field and a second description of a second
8 condition for the second field; and

9 a configuration module that, when executed on the processor,
10 validates the configuration setting for use with the first application by
11 comparing the second description of the second condition with the first
12 description of the first condition to determine whether the second condition
13 is met by the first condition, and if met, then determining that the
14 configuration setting is valid for use with the first application.
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18 29. (Original): A computer as described in claim 28, wherein the second
19 application is stored in the memory.
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21 30. (Original): A computer as described in claim 28, wherein the
22 configuration file is received in a transmission from a network for storage in the
23 memory.
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1 31. (Original): A computer as described in claim 28, wherein the first
2 and second conditions are selected from the group consisting of:

3 a value constraint;

4 a default value;

5 a description of units in which the first and second fields are expressed;

6 a description of meanings of the first and second fields; and

7 an example of values of the first and second fields.
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10 32. (Original): A computer comprising:

11 a processor; and

12 memory configured to maintain:

13 a first application composed of computer instructions, the computer
14 instructions having an attribute, the attribute providing a first description of
15 a first condition for a first field, and wherein a first configuration setting
16 includes the first description and the first field;
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18 a configuration file including a second configuration setting of a
19 second application having a second field and a second description of a
20 second condition for the second field; and

21 a configuration module that, when executed on the processor,
22 validates the first configuration setting for use with the second application
23 by comparing the first description of the first condition with the second
24 description of the second condition to determine whether the first condition
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1 is met by the second condition, and if met, then determining that the first
2 configuration setting is valid for use with the second application.

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4 33. (Original): A computer as described in claim 32, wherein the second
5 application is stored in the memory.

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7 34. (Original): A computer as described in claim 32, wherein the
8 configuration file is received over a network and stored in the memory.

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11 35. (Original): A computer as described in claim 32, wherein the first
12 and second conditions are selected from the group consisting of:

13 a value constraint;

14 a default value;

15 a description of units in which the first and second fields are expressed;

16 a description of meanings of the first and second fields; and

17 an example of values of the first and second fields.

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20 36. (Previously presented): A content server comprising:
21 a broadcast transmitter configured to provide media content to a client in
22 response to a request from the client;

23 a processor; and

24 memory configured to maintain:
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1 a first application that when executed provides media content for
2 broadcast by the broadcast transmitter, wherein the application is composed
3 of computer instructions, the computer instructions have attributes, and
4 each said attribute provides a description of a condition for a field; and

5 a documenter that is executable on the processor to generate a
6 configuration file having a configuration setting of the first application,
7 wherein the configuration setting includes the field and the description of
8 the condition for the field.
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11 37. (Previously presented): A content server as described in claim 36,
12 wherein the condition is a value constraint selected from the group consisting of:

13 an integer range;

14 a float range;

15 a value set;

16 a string pattern;

17 cardinality of a collection;

18 a mandatory value; and

19 an optional value.
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22 38. (Previously presented): A content server as described in claim 36,
23 wherein the condition is a default value.
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1 39. (Previously presented): A content server as described in claim 36,
2 wherein the condition is a textual descriptions selected from the group consisting
3 of:

- 4 a description of units in which the first and second fields are expressed;
5 a description of meanings of the first and second fields; and
6 an example of values of the first and second fields.
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9 40. (Original): A content server comprising:

10 a first application composed of computer instructions, the computer
11 instructions having attributes, and each said attribute providing a description of a
12 condition for a field;

13 a configuration module that is executable to validate whether each said
14 condition is met by a second application; and

15 a documenter that is executable to generate a configuration file having a
16 configuration setting of the first application, wherein the configuration setting
17 includes the field and the description of the condition.
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20 41. (Original): A content server as described in claim 40, further
21 comprising a broadcast transmitter, wherein the first application, when executed,
22 provides content for broadcast by the broadcast transmitter.
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25 42. (Previously presented): A content server as described in claim 40,

1 wherein each said condition is a value constraint selected from the group
2 consisting of:

- 3 an integer range;
- 4 a float range;
- 5 a value set;
- 6 a string pattern;
- 7 cardinality of a collection;
- 8 a mandatory value; and
- 9 an optional value.

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12 43. (Original): A content server as described in claim 40, wherein each
13 said condition is a default value.

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15 44. (Original): A content server as described in claim 40, wherein each
16 said condition is a textual description selected from the group consisting of:

- 17 a description of a unit in which a respective said field is expressed;
- 18 a description of a meaning of a respective said field; and
- 19 an example of a values of a respective said field.

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22 45. (Original): A system comprising:

- 23 a network;
 - 24 a first computer communicatively coupled to the network and including a
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1 first application composed of computer instructions, the computer instructions
2 having a first attribute that provides a first description of a first condition for the
3 first field, wherein a first configuration setting includes the first field and the first
4 description;

5 a second computer communicatively coupled to the network and including:

6 a second application composed of computer instructions having a
7 second attribute that provides a second description of a second condition
8 for a second field; and

9 a configuration module that is executable by the second computer to
10 validate the first configuration setting for use with the second application
11 by comparing the first description of the first condition with the second
12 description of the second condition.
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15 46. (Original): A system as described in claim 45, wherein the first
16 computer is configured as a set-top box and the second computer is configured as
17 a content server.
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20 47. (Original): A system as described in claim 45, wherein the first and
21 second conditions are selected from the group consisting of:

22 a value constraint;

23 a default value;

24 a description of units in which the first and second fields are expressed;
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a description of meanings of the first and second fields; and
an example of values of the first and second fields.

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